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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*This Journal is published on the 1st of every month.*

*We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slit in the paper near it.*

*The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.*

*Colored Envelopes are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.*

*We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.*

**F. F.**—*We are not able to furnish the address you request; nor can we reply to the enquiry respecting the musical arrangements you refer to.*

**E. T.**—*The question you ask, involves so many individual requisites, that it is impossible to give an opinion on the subject from a general statement.*

## Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

**OLDHAM.**—At a meeting of the Musical Society and the Borough Choral Society, it was agreed that the two societies should unite for the purpose of giving a series of oratorios in the Working Man's Hall, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Jackson and Mr. Joseph Winterbottom, the former as leader, and the latter as conductor. It is expected that these performances will be the finest musical treats that have been given in Oldham for some time.

**LEAMINGTON.**—The Choral Society gave a grand Lenten concert of sacred music, on the 28th of February, in the Public Hall, under the conductorship of Mr. Aspa. The programme included pieces from Handel, Mendelssohn, Spohr, Cherubini, &c.; with selections from Haydn's *Creation*.

**ORGAN MUSIC.**—An interesting performance took place on the 5th of March, at the manufactory of Messrs. Gray and Davison, upon an organ just completed by them, for Sherborne Abbey. The powers of the instrument were fully tested by Mr. W. T. Best, the organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool, whose performances met with great approbation from the assembled audience.

**ISLINGTON.**—The Amphion Glee and Madrigal Society gave a concert at Becker's Rooms, on the 28th of February. The Society is entirely composed of amateurs.

**WESTERN AMATEUR GLEE CLUB.**—The members of this old and respectable society held the tenth meeting of the thirtieth season, at their rooms in Soho Square, on Saturday, March 8th. Among other choice glees and madrigals, we noticed the new M.S.S. one by the well-known G. A. Macfarren, and the other by C. E. Spenser, conductor of this society, as well as of the glee club. But the feature of the evening was the presentation of a silver cup, with a weighty purse of sovereigns, to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Burford G. H. Gibsone (according to inscription, "the Founder of the Society"), as a token of their regard and esteem, and for his untiring attention to their interests, for a period of thirty years. The cup was presented by the president, F. White, Esq., with a neat and appropriate address, which was ably seconded by James Evans, Esq., President of the Western Madrigal Society. The Secretary returned thanks as well as his feelings would permit; and the whole affair passed off most pleasingly to all concerned.

**YORK.**—The Choral Society gave their grand Assize Concert on the 12th of March, when was performed, for the first time in York, Weber's Mass in G, and Mozart's Motett, "Glory, praise, and adoration." The principal vocalists were Mrs. Sunderland, Messrs. Coultate, Wilson, Hinchcliffe, and Lambert. Mr. Hopkinson was the conductor, and Mr. Shaw the leader.

**THE LEGENDARY SONGS OF IRELAND.**—On this subject, a series of illustrated lectures are at present being delivered at various literary institutions, by Dr. White, author of the *Emerald Wreath*, &c. The illustrative songs of these entertainments are original, and have been written and arranged by Dr. White, who has, after the manner of Moore, adapted his lyrics to a series of ancient Irish melodies.

**LIVERPOOL.**—The Apollo Glee Club held its 59th anniversary dinner at the Adelphi Hotel, on the 23d of February; the music being under the direction of Mr. George Holden. This society, which was established in 1796, is one of the oldest in the provinces.

**LIVERPOOL.**—The Philharmonic Society gave a performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio of *St. Paul*, on Tuesday, the 11th of March.

**M. BERLIOZ.**—Previous to a concert at Gotha, when the *Enfance du Christ* was given, the Duke of Gotha presented the cross of his order to the composer.

**MIDDLETON.**—The Middleton and Tonge Mendelssohnian Society gave, for their first concert, a performance of the oratorio, *St. Paul*. We understand that this society intends giving a number of cheap concerts for the people.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—The Amateur Harmonic Association has been established but two months, and it already numbers 135 members. The chief difficulty, at present, is to obtain sufficient contralto voices; but these, once supplied, a powerful choir is anticipated.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—The election to the Professorship of Music, took place on the 4th March. Mr. W. Sterndale Bennett received 173 votes; and this result gives great satisfaction.

**NORWICH.**—Mr. Archibald C. Mann gave a concert on the 11th March, the principal feature of which was a selection from Pierson's *Jerusalem*. The Cathedral Choir, assisted by the Philharmonic Society, gave their services on the occasion.

The Ecclesiological Society's meetings for the approaching season, are announced to take place on April 14th, June 5th, and July 24th, at St. Martin's Hall.

**WELLS.**—The Choral Society gave a select performance at the Odd Fellows' Hall, on the 6th March, when portions of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and other pieces, formed the concert.

**RYE.**—The Choral Society gave a concert on the 13th March, conducted by Mr. Kidd, assisted by Mr. D. Parks and Mr. T. Elliott.

**PORTSMOUTH.**—The "Musical Association" gave their second concert for the season on the 11th March. Mrs. Temple and Mr. Wyatt were the principal vocalists.

Picco, the born-blind Sardinian Minstrel, gave his first concert in England at the Hanover Square Rooms on the 8th March. The instrument upon which he plays is a piccolo, or small flute; but much smaller than the instrument generally used by musicians. It is scarcely three inches in length; and has but four apertures—three in the centre, and one at the end, and is different in form. It is but a pipe,—nay, a whistle; yet "there is much music, excellent voice, in this little organ," as played upon by blind-born Picco.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—A "Commemoration Soirée" took place on the 13th March; when several concerted pieces of music were performed by the members of the Harmonic Association. Two excellent glees, by Mr. A. J. Sutton, gained much approval.

**CROSBY HALL.**—This season of the Quartett Concerts has been more than usually successful. The fourth and fifth concert, presented each a novelty. Onslow's trio in G, for piano, violin, and violoncello, was given at the former concert (first public performance in this country). The piece has many popular qualifications. The subjects are all melodious, and the design throughout clear. The trio was received with the most decided marks of approbation. Miss Binfield Williams, who took the pianoforte part, must, from her late great improvement, unquestionably be placed in the foremost rank of lady-pianists. The novelty at the next concert was the appearance of Miss Corfield (a pupil of Mr. Sterndale Bennett), who made a most successful debut in Mendelssohn's quartett in B minor.

**PANOPTICON.**—On Monday and Wednesday in Passion Week, a selection of sacred and miscellaneous music, and on Tuesday and Thursday a selection from Handel's *Messiah*, were given here. The place, with its fine organ, and its lofty arena, is well suited for the purpose. The vocalists were satisfactory; but the choruses should have been quadrupled. The attendance was very numerous.

**CRAWLEY.**—The members of the Church Choir, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Lloyd Fowle, gave their second and last concert of sacred music for the present season. The selection comprised some favorite anthems. Mr. Fowle was honored by having the only two *encores* of the evening awarded to his music—"Sing, O ye Heavens," and "O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem;" which latter was composed for the occasion, and was nicely sung by the Choir. The room was full, and everyone seemed pleased with the performance.

**DERBY.**—After an interval of some years, the Choral Society has been re-organised, and placed under the leadership of Mr. W. W. Woodman, organist of St. Martin's Catholic Church. On the 14th, a miscellaneous concert was given at the first of the series; when the chief piece was Mendelssohn's *As the Hart pants*. From the high tone of commendation assumed by the local press of the manner in which the choruses were executed, it may be inferred that this society bids fair to regain its old station, as one of the first provincial societies in England.

**OXFORD.**—(*From the Musical World.*)—The University and the town were greatly excited on Wednesday by the public performance of an exercise for the doctor's degree in music, composed by Mr. E. G. Monk, precentor and musical professor of St. Peter's College, Radley. The great Sheldonian Theatre, a building similar in extent and in the purposes to which it is applied to the Senate-house of Cambridge, was attended by the Vice-Chancellor and all the chief dignitaries of the University in state, and a multitude of students, towns-folk, and visitors from London and different parts of the provinces, numbering little less than four thousand. The work consists of Gray's poem of "The Bard," which forms the subject of an ode for solo, chorus, and orchestra, of about an hour in length, comprising eight pieces. The first of these, a march, is clear, melodious, and simple, but certainly the least meritorious portion of the composition. This is followed by a long and animated chorus, "Ruin seize thee, ruthless king," which is succeeded by a very spirited air, "Hark how each giant oak," sung by Mr. Thomas in a manner fully to sustain the good esteem he is rapidly gaining in London. The long and charmingly written chorus, "Cold is Cadwallor's tongue," contains some admirable vocal effects, and, though not the most effective, is the best constructed movement in the whole work. The arietta, "Dear lost

companions," is graceful and melodious, and in this Mr. Thomas appeared to even greater advantage than in the previous song. The fanciful Incantation Chorus is well conceived, and its good effect was warmly appreciated by the audience, who redemanded it with enthusiasm. The next piece, another air, "Girt with many a baron bold," has a savour of vulgarity at variance with all the rest of the work: the spirited singing of Mr. Thomas obtained for it, however, a genuine encore. The final chorus is a fugue for eight voices, throughout which the tune of "God save the Queen" is sustained as a *canto fermo* by the brass instruments, with excellent and very novel effect; this is an admirable piece of contrapuntal elaboration, the merit of which is as perspicuous as its construction is complicated and ingenious, as was proved by the rapturous cheers that compelled its repetition. Mr. Monk must be as proud of his genuine success as the University has reason to be of its new doctor.

**THE WESTERN MADRIGAL SOCIETY** held its seventeenth anniversary dinner at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, March 13th; James Evans, Esq., President, in the chair. Including the ladies, 236 persons were present, of whom nearly eighty were professional, from the various choirs. With such a body of voices the massive harmonies of the old masters came out with great effect. Bird's "Bow thine ear" was glorious. A little madrigal of Wilbye's, "Adieu sweet Amarillis," scarcely known, appeared to give much satisfaction. The general selection was strong. This society, under its most liberal and urbane President, and an active Secretary (Mr. Gibsone) is progressing every year.

**CHELTENHAM.**—Mr. Finlayson's concert, which took place at the Assembly Rooms on the 11th March, proved most successful, and must have been particularly gratifying to its giver, who, on this occasion, made his first appearance in the capacity of a public caterer. Mr. and Mrs. Lockey were the chief vocalists; Signor Giulio Regondi performed on the guitar and concertina; Herr Oberthur played on the harp; and Signor Li Calsi presided at the pianoforte.

A NEW HALL for concerts on a large scale, or for public meetings, is in contemplation. The site chosen for the building is a plot of ground between Air Street, and Vine Street, Piccadilly, and Regent Street. The cost of the building, which is to be called the St. James's Hall, is estimated at £40,000, to be raised in shares.

**BRIGG.**—A lecture on "Congregational Music" was delivered on the 6th March, by Mr. E. Thompson. The lecturer's object was to show the practicability of singing from the notes in four parts by the members of the whole congregation. The musical illustrations were performed by Mr. Thompson's pupils. The lecture and singing gave great satisfaction to a highly respectable assembly.

**SHAFTESBURY HALL, ALDERSGATE STREET.**—On Tuesday, March 11th, Handel's *Messiah* was performed, under the patronage of the worthy Alderman, Sir P. Laurie, the Clergy of the Ward, the Treasurer and Committee of the Aldersgate Ward School; on behalf of the funds of the said school. The whole (particularly the choruses) went off with very great effect. The surplus to the school realized about ten pounds. Conductor, Mr. Essex.

**STROUD.**—Mr. Robert Paget gave a concert of vocal music, under the patronage of Lord and Lady John Russell, on the 24th March. Miss Bretet and Mr. and Mrs. Paget were the singers; and Mr. W. Haynes presided at the pianoforte.

**STAMFORD.**—We are glad to find that the Musical Union is re-organized, instead of being broken up. The new conductor is Mr. Layton; the leader, Mr. Wells; and the secretary, Mr. Bayley.

**BATH.**—On the 22nd March, morning and evening concerts of sacred music were given; consisting of selections from *Eli, Elijah*, the works of Handel, and miscellaneous pieces. The vocalists were Mr. and Mrs. Tennant, and Mr. and Mrs. Paget, each of whom made their *debut* before a Bath audience, Mr. Salmon led the band.

**GLOUCESTER.**—On the 25th March the Choral Society performed M. Costa's new oratorio of *Eli*, in the Shire Hall. The principal performers were Mdlla. Bretôt, Mrs. Paget, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Paget (Eli), and Mr. Wheeler. Mrs. Paget was encoired in both the Morning and Evening Prayer. Mr. Taylor presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. Higgs conducted.

## Anthems, &c., for the Coming Season.

### ASCENSION.

**CROFT.** GOD IS GONE UP WITH A MERRY NOISE. s.s.a.a.t.b. Vocal score, 1s. 3d.; Vocal parts, 10½d.

**CROFT.** O LORD GOD OF MY SALVATION. Verse, a.t.b. Vocal score, 1s. 9d.; Vocal parts, 10½d.

**HANDEL.** BUT THOU DIDST NOT LEAVE. Air, s. and chorus. Lift up your heads. Vocal score, 1s. 6d.; Vocal parts, 1s.

**PALESTRINA.** HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAIN. s.a.t.b. 1s. 3d.

### WHIT-SUNDAY.

**BLOW.** I WAS IN THE SPIRIT. Verse, a.t.b.b. Vocal score, 1s. 6d.; Vocal parts, 10½d.

— I beheld, and lo! a great multitude. Verse, a.t.b.b. Vocal score, 1s. 6d.; Vocal parts, 1s.

**FOWLE, T. L.** WHEN THE COMFORTER IS COME. Solo and Chorus. 6d.

**GREENE.** LET GOD ARISE. Verse, a.t.b. Vocal score, 2s.; Vocal parts, 1s. 6d.

**HANDEL.** HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET. Air with chorus. Their sound is gone out. 9d. Chorus parts, 1s.

**LONGHURST.** GREAT IS THE LORD, AND HIGHLY TO BE PRAISED. s.s.a.t.b. 9d.

**LORAIN.** COME, HOLY GHOST, CREATOR, COME. And two other Festival Hymns. 1s. 6d.

**PURCELL.** LET GOD ARISE. Verse, t.t. 2s.

**TALLIS.** IF YE LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS. s.a.t.b. 6d. Vocal parts, 6d.

### TRINITY SUNDAY.

**HANDEL.** HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY. s. solo, 6d. Worthy is the Lamb. Chorus, folio, 1s. 9d.; Octavo, 4½d.; Vocal parts, 2s.

**PALESTRINA.** HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY. s.s.a.t.b. 1s. 3d.

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